Construction of a hotel at Andrewsgunj; if so, the details of the terms and conditions;

(b) the amount paid by the firm alongwith the amount it owes to HUDCO;

(c) whether the company has defaulted in the past;

(d) whether HUDCO is planning to cancel the allotment; if so, by when and if not, the steps being taken to recover the amount with panel interest; and

(e) whether M/s M.S. Shoes East is planning to sell the prime land; if so, the steps being taken to prevent such a sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYEMNT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The hotel site was allotted to M/s Shoes East Ltd. on 31.10.94 by HUDCO on the basis of open competitive bids. As per terms and conditions of allotment the first instalment representing 40% of bid money amounting to Rs. 25.64 crores was payable within four weeks. This amount has been paid by the party along with penal interest. The remaining amount representing 30% is payable on or before 31.10.95 and 31.10.96 as 2nd & final instalments.

(c) and (d) The company has not defaulted so far on payment of dues on account of hotel site. However, action for cancellation was initiated by HUDCO on account of default by this company on payment towards other facilities. The matter is *sub judice* and *status quo* continues till the next date of hearing before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, i.e. 10.10.95.

(e) In this regard nothing has come to the notice of the Govt. However, the party cannot sell, transfer, assign or otherwise part with the possession without prior permission of the lessor/ HUDCO.

Differences on the foodgrains Production Targets

2530. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there appears to be any difference in fixing the targets of foodgrain production during the Eighth Plan between the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Agriculture;

(b) if so, the grounds of differences; whether any reconciliation has been reached on the targets of foodgrains production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) There is no difference in foodgrain production targets during the Eighth Plan between the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Lack of Funds for Research in Urban Planning and Mapping

2531. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that no funds have been provided for Research in Urban and Regional Planning and Urban Mapping in spite of the fact that the Eighth Plan had proposed Rupees 40 crores; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to provide adequate funds for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Funds have been provided for Research in Urban and Regional Planning and Urban Mapping on year to year basis.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Educated Unemployed

2532. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of educated unemployed youths in urban areas has increased in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether in view of the economic liberalization Government propose to take up the matter with private sector to create further employment opportunities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Prices of Steel

2533. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the detailed plan of his Ministry to export steel during the next five years;

(b) whether the private sector would cover the shortfall in targetted production; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SAIL's modernisation and expansion in R & D plan would lower the cost of steel increase the output of the existing plants by improving technology and utilising capacity more efficiently; and

(d) what is Government's reaction to a report on the future of steel industry prepared by the US experts and published in Hindustan Times dated 1st August, 1995 captioned "Indian steel prices to be raised selectively"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Ministry of Steel only acts as the facilitator in export of steel as the current Export-Import Policy allows such exports freely. Ministry of Steel has projected an export of 60 lakh tonnes of steel by 2001-2002, from the level of 13 lakh tonnes during 1994-95.

(b) The demand for steel (including demand for exports) is expected to increase from present level of 19 million tonnes to 37 million tonnes in 2001-2002. this increase in demand will be met through creation of additional capacity in private sector and through modernisation and expansion of existing steel plants in the public sector, since there is no proposal to set up any new steel plant in public sector.

(c) Yes, Sir. SAIL's modernisation plan would lower the cost of saleable steel and also increase the output at the existing plants. SAIL's R & D programmes are aimed at quality improvement, cost reduction, development of value added products and development of new technology.

(d) With the liberalisation of the steel sector (i.e. delicensing, deregulation of prices and distribution liberalisation of imports/exports and progressive reduction in customs duties on steel imports), the prices of steel have become increasingly market-determined. In such a competitive market environment, prices are determined by interplay of the forces of demand and supply. In order to retain existing market share, every producer would try to absorb increases in input costs by improving productivity rather than passing on the entire burden to the consumer through raised prices.

Wage revision by fertilizer units

2534. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the fertilizer units in Public Sector Undertakings which have completed the wage revision in respect of the non Executive staff;

(b) the ratio of the income earned by those Public Sector Units to the total amount involved in the agreement; and

(c) the particulars of the industries where the wage revision has not been done and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Wage revision in respect of unionised category of employees for the period from 1.1.1991 to 31.12.1995 has been completed in Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF), Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL) and for the period from 1.1.1992 to 31.12.1996 in Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT). The additional annual financial outgo on account of the wage revision agreements in relation to the net profit (provisional) of these companies for the year 1994-95 is about 1.95% in the case of RCF, 5.47% in the case of FACT and 49% in the case of MFL.

(c) The other public sector enterprises in the fertilizer sector are in the process of examining the feasibility of introducing wage revision for their non-executive staff in terms of the requirements specified in the extant guidelines of the Government.